

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A mobile station for use in a communication system having a base station, the mobile station comprising

power control signal generation means for generating a power control signal for enabling the base station to adjust its transmit power level in accordance with a power control loop process,

report generation means for generating reports from measurements of a characteristic of a signal received from the base station,

transmitter means for transmitting the reports and the power control signal to the base station, and

transmission control means adapted to control a time of transmission of the reports such that first of the reports are transmitted at a predetermined sequence of times and, in response to an interruption in the power control loop process ~~or the transmitting of the reports~~, and for a period existing at least one of before, during and after the interruption, to control a time of transmission of one or more second of the reports at times that are not coincident with the predetermined times.

2. (Original) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the power control signal comprises power control commands.

3. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the report generation means is adapted to generate at least one of the second reports from a measurement of shorter duration than a measurement duration used to generate the first reports.

4. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the report generation means is adapted to generate an earliest report transmitted after an end of the interruption from a measurement commenced before the end of the interruption.

5. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission control means is adapted to select, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, a start time of the period for which the second reports are transmitted.

6. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission control means is adapted to select, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, a duration of the period for which the second reports are transmitted.

7. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission control means is adapted to select, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, a number of the second reports to be transmitted in the period.

8. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein a duration of the period for which the second reports are transmitted is predetermined.

9. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein a number of the second reports transmitted in the period is predetermined.

10. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the period terminates when a next predetermined time occurs.

11. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission control means is adapted to terminate the period in response to an indication of convergence of the power control loop process.

12. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 11, wherein the indication of convergence is a signal received from the base station.

13. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 11, wherein the transmitter control means is adapted to generate the indication of convergence in accordance with a predetermined criterion.

14. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 13, wherein the predetermined criterion includes a reversal of the sign of at least one power control command.

15. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the report generation means is adapted to suspend generation of the first reports during the interruption.

16. (Previously presented) A mobile station as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission control means is adapted to, after one or more second reports have been transmitted, apply a time shift to the predetermined sequence of times for the transmission of subsequent first reports.

17. (Previously presented) A radio communication system comprising a base station and at least one mobile station as claimed in claim 1.

18. (Currently amended) A method of operating a radio communication system having a base station and a mobile station, comprising, at the mobile station,
generating a power control signal for enabling the base station to adjust its transmit power in accordance with a power control loop process,

transmitting the power control signal to the base station,
generating reports from measurements of a characteristic of a signal received from the base station, and
transmitting the reports to the base station,
interrupting the power control loop process ~~or the transmitting of the reports,~~
and,
at the mobile station, controlling the time of transmission of the reports such that first of the reports are transmitted at a predetermined sequence of times and, in response to the interruption, and for a period existing at least one of before, during and after the interruption, second of the reports are transmitted at times not coincident with the predetermined times.

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the power control signal comprises power control commands.

20. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least one of the second reports is generated from a measurement of shorter duration than a measurement duration used to generate the first reports.

21. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein an earliest report transmitted after an end of the interruption is generated from a measurement commenced before the end of the interruption period.

22. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising selecting, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, a start time of the period for which the second reports are transmitted.

23. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising selecting, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, the duration of the period for which the second reports are transmitted.

24. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising selecting, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, the number of the second reports transmitted in the period.

25. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a duration of the period for which the second reports are transmitted is predetermined.

26. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a number of the second reports transmitted in the period is predetermined.

27. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the period terminates when a next predetermined time occurs.

28. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising terminating the period for which the second reports are transmitted in response to an indication of convergence of the power control loop process.

29. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 28, comprising generating the indication of convergence at the base station in accordance with a predetermined criterion and transmitting the indication of convergence from the base station to the mobile station.

30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 28, comprising generating the indication of convergence at the mobile station in accordance with a predetermined criterion.

31. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the predetermined criterion is a reversal of a sign of at least one power control command.

32. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising suspending the generating of the first reports during the interruption.

33. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, comprising, after one or more second reports have been transmitted, applying a time shift to the predetermined sequence of times for the transmission of subsequent first reports.

34. (Previously presented) A base station for use in a radio communication system, comprising:

transmitter power control means for, in response to a first signal received from a mobile station, setting a transmit power level of a first transmitted signal in accordance with a power control loop process,

control means for selecting, in response to reports received from the mobile station at a predetermined sequence of times, a parameter of a second transmitted signal,

scheduling means for scheduling an interruption in the power control loop process or the reports received from the mobile station, and

indicating means for generating for transmission to the mobile station in response to the interruption, an indication of one or more further reports to be transmitted for a period at times not coincident with the predetermined times.

35. (Previously presented) A base station as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first signal received includes a transmit power control command.

36. (Previously presented) A base station as claimed in claim 34, wherein the indication comprises at least one of a start time, end time and duration of the period.

37. (Previously presented) A base station as claimed in claim 34, wherein the scheduling means is adapted to determine an end time of the period in response to an indication of convergence of the power control loop process.

38. (Previously presented) A base station as claimed in claim 34, wherein the scheduling means is adapted to determine at least one of a start time, end time and duration of the period to be dependent on a length of the scheduled interruption.

39. (Currently amended) A mobile station for use in a communication system having a base station, the mobile station comprising:

a receiver;

a controller that is configured to:

generate power control signals that enable the base station to adjust its transmit power level in accordance with a power control loop process,

generate reports from measurements of a characteristic of a signal received from the base station, and

control a time of transmission of the reports; and

a transmitter that is configured to transmit the power control signals and the reports;

wherein the controller controls the time of transmission of the reports such that the reports are transmitted at a first rate and, in response to an interruption in the power control loop process ~~or the transmitting of the reports~~, the reports are transmitted at a second rate that is higher than the first rate.

40. (Previously presented) The mobile station of claim 39, wherein the controller is configured to generate at least one of the second reports from a measurement of shorter duration than a measurement duration used to generate the first reports.

41. (Previously presented) The mobile station of claim 39, wherein the controller is configured to select, in response to an indication of a length of the interruption, at least one of: a start time of the period for which the second reports are transmitted, a duration of the period for which the second reports are transmitted, and a number of the second reports to be transmitted in the period.

42. (Previously presented) The mobile station of claim 39, wherein the controller is configured to resume sending the reports at the first rate in response to an indication of convergence of the power control loop process.